REMARKS

Claims 14 and 17-25 are pending in the application. Each of these claims stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as obvious over the combination of Frese (U.S. Patent No. 5,909,545) and Pfeifer (U.S. Patent No. 5,666,407), alone or in combination with Kuo (U.S. Patent No. 5,296,643). These rejections are respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Each of the currently pending claims is directed toward a "method for configuring a remote computer for a voice over data packet network call" and requires an applet that causes "an audible tone to be produced by a speaker connected to the end user computer" and adjusts "a media setting in accordance with a time delay between the audible tone and a sound corresponding to the audible tone detected by a microphone connected to the end user computer."

In contrast to the inventions of claims 14 and 17-25, Pfeifer discusses a "software-based bridging system for full duplex audio telephone conferencing" in which a host processor 60 is programmed to perform in software operations that were previously performed by a hardware bridge 50. Col. 2, lines 56-59. The function of the hardware bridge is to enable each user to hear all parts of a conference call. Col. 2, lines 16-17. In the context of a conference call between users A, B, and C, where A is the user in the middle of the call, the host processor 60 outputs to user B a signal that includes the signal picked up by its microphone (which includes user A's voice plus echoes of voices of users B and C produced by the user A speaker) plus user C's voice delayed by a certain delay time. Col. 5, lines 54-60. The echo of user B's voice is subtracted from that signal by the acoustic echo canceller, or AEC, 130. Col. 5, lines 61-63. Thus, the signal sent to user B consists of A's voice, plus an echo of C's voice plus a delayed version of

4773902.1   -4-

C's voice generated by the host processor 60. Col. 5, lines 64-66. A similar function is performed for user C.
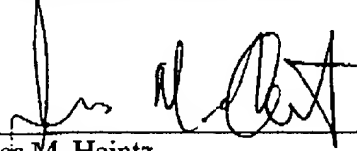
The office action asserts that Pfeifer's system adjusts the AEC 130 in accordance with the measured time delay. Applicants respectfully disagree. The only use of the measure time delay in Pfeifer is to generate a delayed version of C's (or B's) voice. Nowhere in Pfeifer is there any discussion of using the measure delay to adjust the AEC 130. Applicants note that the measurement of the time delay in Pfeifer is only discussed in connection with Figure 2, whereas the AEC 130 is present in both Figure 2 and Figure 1, which is labeled as "PRIOR ART" in Pfeifer. Since the AEC 130 is in the "Prior Art" system of Figure 1, and there is no discussion of measuring a time delay in connection with Figure 1, it follows that the operation of the AEC 130 in Figure 1 is independent of any measured time delay and there is no indication that the operation of AEC 130 in Figure 2 is any different.

Accordingly, Pfeifer does not disclose the adjustment of the AEC 130 or any other "media setting in accordance with a time delay" between an audible tone generated by the end user computer's speaker and a corresponding sound detected by a microphone connected to the end user computer as required by each of the currently pending claims. The other references relied on in the office action, Frese and Kuo, do not include this missing disclosure. Applicants therefore respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections of claims 14 and 17-25.

In light of the above, Applicants submit that this application is now in condition for

allowance and therefore request favorable consideration. If any issues remain which the

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, the Examiner is

respectfully requested to contact Applicants counsel, James M. Heintz at (202) 861-4167.

Respectfully submitted,

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4773902.1   -6-